

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 05771

PASS AID/PHA/POP

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SPOP, MX

SUBJECT: SURGICAL CONTRACEPTION

1. IN PUBLIC SECTOR THREE MAJOR INSTITUTIONS NOW PROVIDING VOLUNTARY SURGICAL CONTRACEPTION (VSC) SERVICES: SECRETARIAT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE (SSA), MEXICAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SECURITY (IMSS) AND SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTE FOR STATE WORKERS (ISSSTE). WHILE NOT ALL ATTITUDES TOWARD VSC ARE KNOWN, FOLLOWING IS RUNDOWN OF INFO TO DATE.

2. IMSS - VERY POSITIVE AND PRO-VSC. DR. JORGE COETO, SUB-DIRECTOR GENERAL MEDICO, HAS GIVEN ORDER TO HIS OPERATIONS LEVEL OFFICE TO EXPAND DELIVERY OF VSC THROUGHOUT IMSS SYSTEM AND TO PROVIDE SERVICES AT PILOT CLINIC IN MEXICO CITY FOR NON-MEMBERS. BASED ON THIS ORDER, DR. GUSTAVO MONTEMAYOR, DIR OF FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM OF IMSS IS IN DISCUSSIONS WITH PVO'S FOR DONATION OF 50 LAPAROSCOPES, 800 SIMPLIFIED MINI-LAP KITS FOR TRADITIONAL POST-PARTUM PROCEDURES, AND 50 VASECTOMY KITS.

3. SSA- VERY POSITIVE AND PRO-VSC. DR. CARLOS GUAL, SUB-SECRETARY, STATED TO POPOFF THAT BY END OF SIX YEAR
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TERM HIS GOAL IS TO HAVE 50 PERCENT OF WOMEN IN FERTILE AGE ACCEPTING DEFINITIVE METHODS. DR. SERGIO CORREU, DIRGEN, MATERNAL-CHILD MEDICAL ATTENTION AND FAMILY PLANNING, HAS BEEN IN DISCUSSIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL FERTILITY RESEARCH PROJECT (IFRP) FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF LAPAROSCOPES FOR SSA FACILITIES. HIS REQUEST FOR 150 LAPAROSCOPES IS NOW IN APPROVAL PROCESS WITHIN SSA.

4. ISSSTE IS THE UNKNOWN ENTITY. SEVERAL ISSSTE PHYSICIANS HAVE BEEN TRAINED BY JOHNS HOPKINS PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN GYNECOLOGY AND OBSTETRICS AND VSC IS BEING PERFORMED AT THE INSTITUTION'S FACILITIES.

5. DR. JORGE MARTINEZ MANAUTOU, DIR OF NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING COORDINATION (CPF), IS PRO-VSC BUT TAKES A CAUTIOUS AND CONSERVATIVE VIEW. HE IS CONCERNED THAT THE ATTACKS BY THE CHURCH AND PRESS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN COSTA RICA AND GUATEMALA NOT TAKE PLACE IN MEXICO UNTIL VSC SERVICES HAVE BECOME INSTITUTIONALIZED AND DEMAND IS GREAT. ACCORDING TO MARTINEZ, A REPORTER FROM MEXICO CITY DAILY "EXCELSIOR" WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN PROBLEMS, AND IS DEVELOPING A CASE FOR MEXICO. FOR THIS REASON, MARTINEZ BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL TO QUIETLY CARRY OUT VSC WITHOUT ANY PROMOTION ACTIVITY. POPOFF COMMENTED THAT EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE HAS SHOWN THAT WORD OF MOUTH BY SATISFIED CLIENTS IS BEST ADVERTISEMENT AND THAT ANYTHING MORE PUBLIC IS PROBABLY NOT WISE.

6. ANDREAS HOLZER, LOCAL INDUSTRIALIST, COUNSELOR TO MEXICAN PRESIDENT AND PERSONAL ADVISOR TO HIS WIFE, CARMEN ROMERO DE LOPEZ PORTILLO, HAS FORMED A COMPANY WITH REPORTED GOM PARTICIPATION, HIS OWN MAJORITY HOLDINGS AND MINORITY KLI (US MANUFACTURER OF LAPAROSCOPES) HOLDINGS TO PRODUCE LAPAROSCOPES. WHILE ACTUAL PRODUCTION MAY BE FIVE YEARS AWAY, THE COMPANY WOULD SELL US-PRODUCED

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LAPAROSCOPES TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND PROVIDE MAINTENANCE FACILITIES TO PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS. POPOFF WAS INFORMED APR 14 THAT MRS LOPEZ PORTILLO IS VERY INTERESTED IN VSC AS A SERVICE AVAILABLE TO ALL MEXICAN WOMEN. SHE HAD A DEMONSTRATION OF THE LAPARASCOPE IN NOV. HOLZER OFFERED TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH MRS LOPEZ PORTILLO, THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THE INTEREST OF THE GOM IN VSC AS A FAMILY PLANNING MEASURE. HAYNE

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